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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT
FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2003

THIS REPORT WILL PRESENT A TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER
THREE THEMES:

HEADLINES
BRIEFING
EDITORIAL OPINION

HEADLINES

MASS APPEAL
Two Blows Against the Uzan - Sabah
\$4 Billion Fine and Arrest Warrant for the Uzans - Hurriyet
PM's Wife's Head Scarf Cancels High Military Council (YAS)
Dinner - Hurriyet
Erdogan Cancels YAS Dinner - Milliyet
Head Scarf Overshadows YAS Reception - Sabah
FM Gul: We did not say 'yes' to US Troop Deployment Request
- Milliyet
Two Resignations from CHP - Turkiye

OPINION MAKERS
Bad News for Uzan Family-Cumhuriyet
High Military Council Convenes Today-Zaman
Deputy Sec. Armitage: 'No UN Decision for Deployment in
Iraq' - Cumhuriyet
Approval of Repentance Law Brings Second Resignation from
CHP - Zaman
Europe Welcomes 7th Package-Radikal

BRIEFING

Uzan Family: All papers report that a US federal judge has ordered the Uzan family to pay \$4.3 billion for fraud in the Nokia-Motorola case. The judge also issued an arrest warrant for 5 members of the Uzan family. According to the court, Motorola and Nokia transferred \$2.7 billion to Telsim, which was owned by the Uzans. The Uzan family spent \$1 billion of this money for their personal use. The judge ordered the Uzans to transfer their Telsim shares to the registry of the court within one week. Meanwhile, another blow against the Uzans came from Turkey. Through a last-minute adjustment in the banking law, a bank's owners will be personally responsible for any differences between official bank records and the records of bank customers. "Sabah" draws attention to the fact that the new regulation will allow the government to seize all of the Uzans' property in order to claim the money deposited illegally in Imar Bank.

Higher Military Council (YAS) Meeting: "Hurriyet" reports that today's meeting of the High Military Council (YAS) has been overshadowed by the headscarf of PM Erdogan's wife. Dinners are traditionally given by the General Staff Land Forces commander and by the Prime Minister during the course of the four-day meeting. The commanders reportedly canceled the two dinners to avoid the participation of the PM's wife, who wears a headscarf. "Milliyet" reports that the generals canceled only the dinner traditionally given by the Prime Minister on the second day of the meetings. The Prime Minister is expected to participate in all the other events by himself.

Troop Deployment: "Hurriyet" reports that at parliament speaker Arinc's reception, Foreign Minister Gul told journalists that 'Turkey has not reached a decision yet about a troop deployment in Iraq.' Gul noted that Turkey does not want to act as a 'gendarme' for the United States in Iraq. According to Gul, Turkey wants to go to Iraq if Turkish troops will be welcomed by the Iraqis as they were in Bosnia. Turkish intelligence officers are studying what kind of welcome Turkish forces are likely to receive in

Iraq. Today's papers also report on British envoy John Sawers' visit to Ankara. Sawers told journalists that the UK would welcome the deployment of Turkish troops in Iraq. CHP Defections: Two parliamentary deputies have resigned from the CHP in the past two days, after a disagreement with the CHP leadership about the party's opposition to the repentance law. The deputies, both of whom are Kurdish, criticized their party's 'anti-democratic' tendencies. "Sabah" reports that three CHP provincial chairmen in the Southeast strongly criticized Baykal for his opposition to the repentance law.

EU Welcomes 7th package: Papers report that the EU has welcomed the approval of Turkey's 7th package of EU harmonization reforms. Turkey's EU General Secretary, Murat Sungar, noted that the package was passed by the government despite the objections of the Turkish military. EU expansion chief Verheugen said that the EU 'expects Turkey to actively implement all reforms that have been passed.'

EDITORIAL OPINION

"A Kurdish state if Iraq disintegrates" Mehmet Ali Birand commented in the mass appeal Posta (8/1): "Kenneth Pollack, a leading expert on Iraq, predicts that the Kurds might declare sovereignty if the confusion in Iraq evolves into a civil war. . The U.S., struggling to handle such a chaotic situation, might not do anything to hold back the Kurds. . Despite his negative views of the Bush administration, Pollack believes Turkey should send peacekeeping troops to Iraq. . Washington has understood that fighting with Turkey over differences on Iraq will not be beneficial. The U.S. has seen the need to share the responsibility in Iraq with other countries, and now wants to turn a new page in its relations with Turkey. Pollack notes that the Bush administration was successful in toppling Saddam quickly, but believes that Washington failed in planning for the post-war period."

"War is bad, but what about occupation?" Erdal Guven wrote in the intellectual/opinion-maker Radikal (8/1): "Compared with the period before the rejection of the March 1 decree, the current situation in Iraq is worse for Turkey. You cannot find a reasonable explanation for sending troops to an occupied land from a country that had denied military access to its soil during the Iraqi campaign. . Sending troops for peacekeeping in Iraq will erase all the credit Turkey won worldwide by its March 1 decision. Ankara is playing a dangerous game once again."

DEUTSCH